

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 02858 031424Z

71

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAB-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /077 W

----- 105069

R 031336Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 646

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 2858

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XI

SUBJECT: ARAB LEAGUE SYG'S "MEDIATION" ON SAHARA

1. EMBOFF SPOKE BRIEFLY TO SENIOR ARAB LEAGUE OFFICIAL MARCH 3 ABOUT SYG RIAD'S JUST-COMPLETED TRIP TO MAGHRIB. AL OFFICIAL CHARACTERIZED RIAD'S MEDIATION EFFORT IN TWO WORDS: "TOTAL FAILURE." HE ADDED THAT RIAD HAD MADE SERIOUS BLUNDER IN MEETING WITH POLISARIO IN ALGERIA AND THAT HASAN HAD ASKED RIAD SUBSEQUENTLY IF HE REPRESENTED "PEOPLE OR STATES." HASAN WAS REPORTEDLY VERY STERN WITH RIAD AND TOLD HIM HE HAD NOT ACTED IN MANNER BECOMING TO ARAB LEAGUE'S TOP OFFICIAL.

2. FOR MONTHS RIAD HAS RESISTED PRESSURE FROM HIS OWN STAFF TO ENDEAVOR TO MEDIATE SAHARA PROBLEM BECAUSE HE FELT HE COULD DO NO GOOD (75 CAIRO 12107). ARAB LEAGUE OFFICIAL TELLS US THAT WHEN OAU SYG ETEKI  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 02858 031424Z

CABLED PROPOSAL FOR JOINT MEDIATION (CAIRO 1348), RIAD

WAS ANNOYED AND AFTER CONSIDERABLE PROCRASTINATION FINALLY  
DECIDED TO REQUEST PERMISSION FROM GOM AND GOA. ETEKI, HAVING  
RECEIVED NO REPLY FROM RIAD, ARRIVED UNEXPECTEDLY IN CAIRO  
AND WAITED THREE DAYS FOR RIAD TO MAKE UP HIS MIND. SINCE  
GOM NEVER DID ANSWER RIAD'S QUESTION AND GOA SIMPLY ASKED  
FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION, RIAD DECIDED NOT TO GO WITH  
ETEKI, WHO THEN DEPARTED ALONE FOR MAGHRIB. THAT RIAD  
FINALLY DID DECIDE TO MAKE AN EFFORT IS SOLELY ATTRIBUTABLE,  
ACCORDING TO OUR SENIOR AL INFORMANT, TO TREMENDOUS PRESSURE  
WHICH BUILT UP AMONG ARAB LEAGUE AMBASSADORS WHO, UNLIKE  
RIAD, BELIEVE THAT THE SYG IS BY VIRTURE OF HIS OFFICE  
REQUIRED TO DEAL WITH CRISES, NOT AVOID THEM.  
EILTS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISPUTES, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, SELFDETERMINATION, INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976CAIRO02858  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760081-0823  
**From:** CAIRO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t197603101/aaaadkve.tel  
**Line Count:** 74  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARAB LEAGUE SYG'S "MEDIATION" ON SAHARA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, PDEV, XI, XF, ARAB LEAGUE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006